

# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

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## WAGE RATES INDEXES, AUSTRALIA, DECEMBER 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Geoff Winter on Canberra 526576 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616  
For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

In December 1979 the weighted average minimum weekly wage rate for Australia for adult males increased by 8 cents to \$168.24. The rate for adult females remained unchanged at \$154.06.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

More information on these statistics of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females will appear later in the monthly publication *Wage Rates* (6312.0) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in particular industries. The indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of wages as distinct from salaries; those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are therefore excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, figures for the latest twelve months shown are subject to revision. As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this publication.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

4. For adult males the weekly wage rates exclude rural industry; in addition the hourly rates exclude shipping and stevedoring, for which data to compute hourly wages are not available. The weekly and hourly wage rates for adult females exclude rural industry, mining and quarrying, and building and construction.

5. The annual changes shown in Tables 1, 2 and 4 measure the percentage change from the same month for the previous year. The percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes.

#### Related publications

6. All current publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

#### Symbols and other usages

n.e.i. not elsewhere included

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TABLE I. WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES (a) : ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; weighted average minimum hourly rates payable; and index numbers of wage rates.

End of -	Adult males					Adult females				
	Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates		Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates	
	Wage rates \$	Annual change %	Index nos. (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index nos. (b)	Wage rates \$	Annual change %	Index nos. (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index nos. (b)
1978 -										
November	154.62	5.2	547.5	386.35	546.1	143.32	4.8	719.9	361.28	720.1
December	161.28	8.2	571.1	403.04	569.7	148.90	7.2	747.9	375.34	748.1
1979 -										
January	161.34	8.2	571.3	403.20	569.9	148.93	7.2	748.1	375.43	748.3
February	161.38	6.6	571.4	403.30	570.0	148.97	5.6	748.3	375.52	748.5
March	161.47	6.7	571.7	403.52	570.4	148.97	5.6	748.3	375.53	748.5
April	161.64	6.7	572.3	403.96	571.0	148.99	5.6	748.4	375.56	748.6
May	161.71	6.8	572.6	404.16	571.3	148.99	5.6	748.4	375.56	748.6
June	166.81	8.7	590.6	416.89	589.2	153.70	7.5	772.0	387.44	772.3
July	166.99	8.8	591.3	417.36	589.9	153.71	7.5	772.1	387.48	772.3
August	167.08	8.8	591.6	417.60	590.2	153.72	7.5	772.1	387.49	772.4
September	167.17	8.2	591.9	417.84	590.6	153.72	7.3	772.1	387.49	772.4
October	167.19	8.2	592.0	417.87	590.6	153.74	7.3	772.2	387.53	772.4
November	168.16	8.8	595.4	420.37	594.2	154.06	7.5	773.9	388.36	774.1
December	168.24	4.3	595.7	420.57	594.4	154.06	3.5	773.9	388.36	774.1

(a) Includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1. (b) Base : Weighted average minimum wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

TABLE 2. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 DECEMBER 1979

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change %	Index nos. (a)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
Mining and quarrying (b)(c)	241.66	161.81	204.74	157.44	163.38	175.51	212.73	6.7	753.2
Manufacturing —									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc. (c)	159.28	164.97	167.11	162.79	160.97	161.90	162.14	5.6	574.1
Textiles, clothing and footwear	150.89	152.57	155.21	150.14	156.02	146.53	151.97	3.2	538.1
Food, drink and tobacco (c)	162.70	164.55	164.42	157.26	166.75	161.22	163.34	4.1	578.4
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	158.65	150.53	163.13	150.16	152.98	149.30	155.98	3.1	552.3
Paper, printing, etc. (c)	161.43	170.82	180.12	166.54	169.99	160.28	166.90	3.5	591.0
Other manufacturing (c)	162.36	160.84	160.87	159.70	157.59	153.37	161.03	4.1	570.2
All manufacturing groups (c)	159.84	162.09	165.27	160.63	159.87	157.70	161.15	4.6	570.6
Building and construction (c)	187.20	182.94	171.75	180.03	174.52	168.36	180.80	3.6	640.2
Railway services (c)	149.16	143.73	167.89	153.69	147.83	155.09	153.18	3.4	542.4
Road and air transport (c)	171.54	161.57	158.39	161.72	172.43	164.29	166.06	4.2	588.0
Shipping and stevedoring (c)(d)	202.12	201.28	192.08	191.66	202.00	196.17	198.62	3.2	703.3
Communication	199.08	200.12	198.56	196.52	199.80	193.21	198.93	6.4	704.4
Wholesale and retail trade (c)	166.19	169.51	166.18	164.31	162.48	168.82	166.68	3.6	590.2
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	169.46	167.20	172.14	157.00	163.41	179.71	167.97	3.3	594.8
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	156.55	152.34	153.89	147.57	146.09	147.54	153.18	3.4	542.4
All industry groups (c)	170.20	166.60	170.24	165.30	164.76	165.75	168.24	4.3	595.7

(a) Base : Weighted average minimum weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (b) For mining, wage rates are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (c) For States other than Western Australia, includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1. (d) Includes wage rates (and value of keep) for occupations in the coastal shipping service, other than masters, engineers and other officers.

TABLE 3. HOURLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 DECEMBER 1979

Weighted average minimum hourly rates payable and index numbers of hourly rates.

Industry group	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.	
							WAGE RATES (cents)	
Mining and quarrying (a)(b)	676.02	404.53	540.47	393.61	428.11	448.67	574.02	
Manufacturing —								
Engineering, metals, vehicles etc. (b)	398.33	412.73	418.04	406.97	402.78	404.75	405.55	
Textiles, clothing and footwear	377.23	381.42	388.02	375.35	390.05	366.31	379.93	
Food, drink and tobacco (b)	407.31	411.36	411.04	393.15	416.88	403.04	408.54	
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	396.62	376.32	407.82	375.41	382.45	373.25	389.96	
Paper, printing, etc. (b)	403.59	427.65	450.31	416.36	433.56	400.70	417.79	
Other manufacturing (b)	405.90	402.46	402.17	400.19	393.07	383.75	402.74	
All manufacturing groups (b)	399.73	405.45	413.27	401.74	400.00	394.30	403.04	
Building and construction (b)	467.99	457.35	429.37	450.06	436.30	420.89	452.01	
Railway services (b)	372.89	359.70	419.72	384.24	369.58	387.73	383.04	
Road and air transport (b)	428.85	403.92	395.98	404.30	431.09	410.72	415.14	
Communication	521.55	522.86	518.80	520.35	522.03	506.16	520.94	
Wholesale and retail trade (b)	415.49	423.78	415.46	410.77	406.19	422.06	416.69	
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	431.98	429.44	435.53	400.21	412.87	456.27	427.95	
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	391.39	380.86	384.73	368.91	365.23	368.84	382.95	
All industry groups (b)	426.65	415.70	425.67	411.84	411.45	411.10	420.57	
INDEX NUMBERS (c)								
Mining and quarrying (a)(b)	955.5	571.8	763.9	556.3	605.1	634.2	811.3	
Manufacturing —								
Engineering, metals, vehicles etc. (b)	563.0	583.4	590.9	575.2	569.3	572.1	573.2	
Textiles, clothing and footwear	533.2	539.1	548.4	530.5	551.3	517.8	537.0	
Food, drink and tobacco (b)	575.7	581.4	581.0	555.7	589.2	569.7	577.4	
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	560.6	531.9	576.4	530.6	540.6	527.6	551.2	
Paper, printing, etc. (b)	570.4	604.5	636.5	588.5	612.8	566.4	590.5	
Other manufacturing (b)	573.7	568.8	568.4	565.6	555.6	542.4	569.2	
All manufacturing groups(b)	565.0	573.1	584.1	567.8	565.4	557.3	569.7	
Building and construction (b)	661.5	646.4	606.9	636.1	616.7	594.9	638.9	
Railway services (b)	527.1	508.4	593.2	543.1	522.4	548.0	541.4	
Road and air transport (b)	606.1	570.9	559.7	571.4	609.3	580.5	586.8	
Communication	737.2	739.0	733.3	735.5	737.9	715.4	736.3	
Wholesale and retail trade (b)	587.3	599.0	587.2	580.6	574.1	596.5	589.0	
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	610.6	607.0	615.6	565.7	583.6	644.9	604.9	
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	553.2	538.3	543.8	521.4	516.2	521.3	541.3	
All industry groups (b)	603.0	587.6	601.7	582.1	581.6	581.1	594.4	

(a) For mining, wage rates used are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (b) For States other than Western Australia, includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1. (c) Base : Weighted average minimum hourly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

TABLE 4. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 DECEMBER 1979

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change %	Index nos. (a)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
<b>Manufacturing -</b>									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc. (b)	153.84	159.88	154.40	154.55	153.01	153.50	155.90	5.4	783.1
Textiles, clothing and footwear	145.18	144.07	144.62	147.45	146.25	141.30	144.66	3.2	726.7
Food, drink and tobacco	155.24	153.82	154.41	151.33	140.37	148.23	153.33	3.9	770.2
Other manufacturing (b)	149.92	153.48	153.66	149.17	148.58	144.09	151.25	3.6	759.7
All manufacturing groups (b)	149.30	149.22	149.76	150.82	146.21	145.20	149.24	3.8	749.6
Transport and communication	153.00	154.86	159.51	158.59	156.60	159.52	155.36	3.2	780.4
Wholesale and retail trade	162.17	166.10	163.04	161.35	158.91	153.72	162.76	3.1	817.6
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	160.78	163.23	158.44	155.59	154.93	158.61	160.40	3.3	805.7
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	150.62	147.08	145.37	143.38	140.48	142.65	147.60	3.4	741.4
All industry groups (b)	154.04	154.17	155.47	154.45	152.18	149.42	154.06	3.5	773.9

(a) Base : Weighted average minimum weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (b) For States other than Western Australia, includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1.

TABLE 5. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ALL GROUPS (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

End of -	(\$)							Australia	
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Federal awards, etc.	State awards, etc.	All awards, etc.
<b>ADULT MALES</b>									
1978 -									
November	155.72	153.15	157.44	151.54	153.63	152.77	155.67	153.35	154.62
December	162.70	159.49	164.39	158.37	159.01	159.45	162.68	159.59	161.28
1979 -									
January	162.77	159.50	164.42	158.39	159.40	159.47	162.71	159.69	161.34
February	162.84	159.50	164.42	158.41	159.49	159.47	162.71	159.77	161.38
March	163.02	159.53	164.42	158.48	159.52	159.47	162.73	159.94	161.47
April	163.21	159.64	164.54	158.55	159.98	159.63	162.93	160.07	161.64
May	163.31	159.79	164.54	158.55	159.99	159.63	163.01	160.15	161.71
June	168.52	164.85	169.72	163.49	164.37	165.14	168.14	165.20	166.81
July	168.70	165.10	169.84	163.59	164.55	165.20	168.35	165.34	166.99
August	168.85	165.20	169.84	163.61	164.63	165.20	168.35	165.53	167.08
September	168.98	165.26	169.91	163.72	164.63	165.28	168.33	165.75	167.17
October	168.94	165.29	169.93	163.85	164.74	165.28	168.33	165.78	167.19
November	170.06	166.58	170.24	165.10	164.76	165.75	170.12	165.76	168.16
December	170.20	166.60	170.24	165.30	164.76	165.75	170.21	165.83	168.24
<b>ADULT FEMALES</b>									
1978 -									
November	143.22	143.38	144.94	143.49	141.90	139.26	136.35	149.37	143.32
December	148.85	148.99	150.57	149.13	146.76	144.66	141.57	155.27	148.90
1979 -									
January	148.86	149.05	150.57	149.13	146.97	144.67	141.57	155.33	148.93
February	148.95	149.05	150.57	149.13	146.98	144.67	141.57	155.40	148.97
March	148.95	149.05	150.57	149.13	147.04	144.67	141.57	155.40	148.97
April	148.95	149.05	150.57	149.13	147.30	144.67	141.57	155.43	148.99
May	148.95	149.05	150.57	149.13	147.30	144.67	141.57	155.43	148.99
June	153.64	153.84	155.39	153.87	151.48	149.32	146.09	160.30	153.70
July	153.64	153.84	155.39	153.87	151.79	149.32	146.09	160.32	153.71
August	153.64	153.84	155.39	153.92	151.79	149.32	146.09	160.34	153.72
September	153.64	153.84	155.39	153.92	151.79	149.32	146.09	160.34	153.72
October	153.64	153.84	155.39	153.94	152.10	149.32	146.09	160.38	153.74
November	154.04	154.17	155.47	154.45	152.18	149.42	146.79	160.38	154.06
December	154.04	154.17	155.47	154.45	152.18	149.42	146.79	160.38	154.06

(a) For States other than Western Australia, includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1.

November 168.16 8.6 178.4 148.37 154.2 154.00 7.5 173.0 168.38 174.1  
December 168.24 4.2 178.7 149.37 154.0 154.00 7.5 173.0 168.38 174.1

(a) Includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1. (b) Base : Weighted average minimum wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

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